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FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE PARAGUAY BUREAU ASUNCION, PARAGUAY

5414-88

1 November 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS

THROUGH

: Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT

: Monthly Report -- Paraguay Bureau --

October 1988

I. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

- 1. The bureau stayed open past normal cob to cover the long-awaited 5 October Chilean plebiscite which resulted in a clear defeat for President Pinochet's hopes of remaining in power for another 8 years. London Bureau passed on the BBC newsroom's "many thanks" for the bureau's "excellent coverage" and the Wire gave the bureau "high praise" for its "outstanding performance". Throughout the month the bureau filed numerous items on the plebiscite's fallout, concluding, at least for the time being, with the resignation of the majority of the Chilean cabinet on 21 October.
- 2. From 21 to 23 October, the bureau filed various priority items on Brazil's reaction to the U.S. Government's decision to slap a 100-percent surcharge on the prices of Brazilian electronic products, paper, and medicines in retaliation for alleged Brazilian violations of patent rights on U.S. pharmaceutical products.

The presidents of Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela, in their Colombia, σf the Fermanent Mechanism of capacity members as Consultation and Political Accord, better known as the Group of Eight, met in Funta Del Este, Uruguay from 27 to 29 In addition to filing FYI's and VSL's on the October. closing ceremonies, the bureau filed the "Uruguay Declaration" at priority precedence and stayed open 29 October to file the group's cab on normal "Guidelines for Action."

B. Cruising

- 1. The cruising monitor observed and reported on the following:
- a. the fall/winter frequency changes in Moscow International Service.
- b. audible Brazilian stations using hf antennas (ROSET 1 was being used to cover the Chilean plebiscite).
- c. Chilean stations audible from the bureau's hf antennas to enhance coverage of Chilean media during the plebiscite.
- d. Uruguayan station Radio La Voz de Artigas on 6075 khz has joined Radio Libertad Sport for its 1600-1630 gmt newscast "Informe Central."
- Madrid International Service е. Lisbon International Service and Radio Spanish and Renascence in Portuguese, as part of the bureau's potential backstop coverage effort: Madrid International Service was heard with very poor reception at 1130-1200 gmt on 21575 at 1300-1305 gmt on 21575, 17890, and 15395 khz; at 1400-1410 gmt on 21575 and 17890 khz; and at 1925-1930 gmt on 17890, 12035, and 9870 khz. Lisbon International Service and Radio Renascenca in Portuguese were not heard at all.
- f. Buenos Aires VCC Videocable, Channel 3, in Spanish off the 53.0w Intelsat has changed its broadcast frequency to 4133 mhz, audio subcarrier at 6.6 mhz LHCP.
- g. Wtn/Bondsat video carrier at RF 3980 mhz off the 53.0w Intelsat can no longer be observed at the bureau.

h. Spanish Television TVE-1 has begun broadcasting at RF 3720 mhz, audio subcarrier at 6.6 mhz off the 27.5w Intelsat.

i. A new Argentine Television carrier Ls83 Television Libertad, Channel 9, Buenos Aires, has been found at RF 4089 mhz, with an audio subcarrier at 6.6 mhz LHCP off the 53.0w Intelsat.

C. Local Services

The bureau provided several video tapes to U.S. Ambassador Timothy Towell on his recent protocol visits to Paraguayan dignitaries. On 21 October, the bureau provided the ambassador with Paraguayan television coverage of his presentation of credentials to President Alfredo Stroessner. A few days later the bureau recorded news coverage of the ambassador's visit to the Chamber of Deputies. Finally, on 25 October Ambassador Towell was provided with recorded clips of his meeting with the chief justice of the Supreme Court. The ambassador later sent a note to the bureau expressing his appreciation for our services and reiterated his thanks at the staff meeting.

II. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

On 21 October, the embassy, in conjunction with the entire U.S. community in Asuncion, held a talent show and taco night. The bureau was well represented as teletypist and driver entertained the crowd with their harp playing and singing, respectively.

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III. VISITS

A. From 25 to 31 October, FED engineer visited the bureau for a technical inspection and to test WJ receiver remote control software.

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B. Ken Ferguson, assistant director of communications for the southern region, based in Montevideo, visited the bureau for a briefing on 20 October.

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Chief, FBIS Paraguay Bureau

CC: Panama Bureau Key West Bureau